

Chapter 1 – Law and legal systems		
1	What is “the law”?	The body of general rules which governs and controls the behaviour of people in the country or state in which we live
2	What are sanctions?	A penalty or adverse consequence for the person or organisation that breaks the law
3	What is the law for?	To regulate the economy and to ensure that life in general is orderly and civilised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tax regulations for economic efficiency ▪ Driving laws for safety ▪ Contract law for smooth-functioning commerce
4	What is the body of rules which applies in England called?	English Law – this applies in England, Wales and generally in Northern Ireland.
5	How is Scottish law different from English?	The Scottish legal system has different origins than English law, being based upon Roman law and more similar to continental European countries. However, most legislation enacted by the UK Parliament applies in both areas.
6	Where have Common Law and Civil/Roman Law been most widely adopted?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Common Law – England, the US & the old Commonwealth – Australia, Canada, New Zealand, part of Africa and Asia ▪ Civil/Roman Law – Continental Europe and former colonies of these countries
7	What is public law?	Law concerning the legal structure of the State and relationships between the State and individual members of the community. Includes constitutional law, administrative law and criminal law.
8	What is constitutional law?	Law concerned with the structure of the main institutions of government and their relationship to each other; including between House of Commons & Lords and between central and local government
9	What is administrative law?	A branch of constitutional law – legal relationship between private citizens and various agencies of local and central government; the impact of government activities on ordinary individuals (taxation, health and education etc)
10	What is criminal law?	Law concerned with the control of behaviour which harms or threatens the peace and stability of the community.
11	What is private law?	Private law governs the relationships between individuals (contracts, torts, trusts, property, succession, family law)